

A. REMARKS

No claims have been canceled or added in this reply. Hence, Claims 1-8, 10-27, 29-37, 39-44, 46 and 47 are pending in this application. All issues raised in the Office Action mailed May 23, 2006 are addressed hereinafter.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-8, 10-27, 29-37, 39-44, 46 AND 47 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-8, 10-27, 29-37, 39-44, 46 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wang et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,636,505 (hereinafter "*Wang*") in view of *Fijolek et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,553,568 (hereinafter "*Fijolek*"). It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-8, 10-27, 29-37, 39-44, 46 and 47 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons provided hereinafter.

CLAIM 1

Claim 1 is directed to a method for automating provisioning of network services for customer premises equipment of a subscriber in a next generation digital telecommunications network. Claim 1 recites:

“receiving a service request from a network service provider that comprises information uniquely identifying the customer premises equipment to be provisioned, and a service to be provided by the customer premises equipment;
receiving information indicating that access is provisioned for a subscriber associated with the customer premises equipment and that one or more permanent virtual circuits are established in network elements of the network for facilitating the access;
retrieving a configuration template for a configuration appropriate for the customer premises equipment;
allocating and reserving at least one resource associated with the customer premises equipment;
allocating and reserving network addresses for a voice signaling channel and a bearer channel associated with communications between the customer premises equipment and the network;
updating a domain name service server with information that associates the allocated and reserved network addresses with the customer premises equipment;
creating and storing one or more mappings for the permanent virtual circuits in a switch device that directs network communications to the customer premises equipment;
generating configuration data for the customer premises equipment based on the configuration template and stored system configuration information; and
delivering the configuration data over the network to the customer premises equipment to result in provisioning the customer premises equipment to provide the service.”

It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 recites at least two or more limitations that are not in any way taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*, considered alone or in combination. For example, it is respectfully submitted that *Wang* and *Fijolek* do not teach or suggest the Claim 1 limitation “receiving a service request from a network service provider that comprises information uniquely identifying the customer premises equipment to be provisioned, and a service to be provided by the customer premises equipment.”

The Office Action relies upon the Abstract of *Wang* for teaching this limitation, so no further discussion is provided here within respect to this limitation and *Fijolek*. It should be pointed out that in Claim 1, the provisioning process is initiated by a request from a network service provider. It is understood from the Office Action that the service provider 30 of *Wang* is considered to be the “network service provider” recited in Claim 1 and that CPE 110 of *Wang* and *Fijolek* is considered to be the “customer premises equipment” recited in Claim 1. Given this understanding, *Wang* is completely different than Claim 1 from the standpoint that in that in *Wang*, a service provider does not make a request to provision CPE 110. Instead, a user or CPE 110 makes the request for service to network service provider 30. Network service provider 30 responds to user requests and informs the user of what parameters to use to configure their ADSL modem. The text at Col. 1, lines 33-45 states:

The ADSL modem in the CPE 110 may be automatically provisioned as follows. The subscriber orders service from the network service provider 30 by transmitting a request over the communication channel 120 from the CPE 110 to the server 130. Next, the network service provider 30 configures the network 60 for service, such as ADSL ATM service. Once the network 60 is configured, the ADSL modem in the CPE 110 is automatically configured for ADSL service by the server 130 over the communication channel 120. The configuration of the ADSL modem is further described below.

There is no teaching or suggestion in *Wang* that network service provider 30 generates a service request. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “receiving a service request from a network service provider that comprises information uniquely identifying the customer premises equipment to be provisioned, and a service to be provided by the customer premises equipment” is not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

As another example, it is respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “allocating and reserving network addresses for a voice signaling channel and a bearer channel associated with communications between the customer premises equipment and the network” is not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*. The Office Action relies upon the text in *Fijolek* at Col. 24, line 49 through Col. 25, line 8 and Col. 25, lines 32-63 for teaching this limitation, so no further

discussion is provided herein with respect to this limitation and *Wang*. These portions of *Fijolek* describe the process of assigning to CPE 18 a static IP address from a pool of network addresses associated with a requested service level agreement. There is also a discussion of enforcing bandwidth provisioning for service level agreements. There is no mention or suggestion in these portions of *Fijolek* of allocating and reserving network addresses for both a voice signaling channel and a bearer channel associated with communications between CPE 18 and a network, as recited in Claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that *Wang* and *Fijolek* do not teach or suggest the Claim 1 limitation “receiving a service request from a network service provider that comprises information uniquely identifying the customer premises equipment to be provisioned, and a service to be provided by the customer premises equipment.”

As another example, it is respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “updating a domain name service server with information that associates the allocated and reserved network addresses with the customer premises equipment” is also not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*. The Office Action asserts that this limitation is taught by *Fijolek* at Col. 24, line 49 through Col. 25, line 21, so no further discussion is provided herein with respect to this limitation and *Wang*. The text at this portion of *Fijolek* describes assigning to CPE 18 a static IP address from a pool of network addresses associated with a requested service level agreement. The text also describes how CPE 18 may send a response message to a DHCP server indicating a single IP address assigned to CPE 18. There is no teaching or suggestion in this portion of *Fijolek*, however, of updating a DHCP server with the allocated and reserved network addresses for both a voice signaling channel and a bearer channel. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “updating a domain name service server with information that associates the allocated and reserved network addresses with the customer premises equipment” is also not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

As yet another example, it is respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “creating and storing one or more mappings for the permanent virtual circuits in a switch device that directs network communications to the customer premises equipment” is also not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*. The Office Action asserts that this limitation is taught by *Fijolek* at Col. 20, lines 49-67, so no further discussion is provided herein with respect to this limitation and *Wang*. The text at this portion of *Fijolek* describes a mapping between cable modem (CM) 16 and the cable modem termination system (CMTS) 12. According to *Fijolek*, “this mapping is the basis on which bandwidth is allocated to the CM 16 by the CMTS 12 and

which CoS and QoS are implemented.” Col. 20, lines 58-59. There is no indication that the mapping in any way relates to permanent virtual circuits or is stored in a switch device that directs network communications to the CPE 18. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Claim 1 limitation “creating and storing one or more mappings for the permanent virtual circuits in a switch device that directs network communications to the customer premises equipment” is not taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 recites at least two or more limitations that are not in any way taught or suggested by *Wang* and *Fijolek* and that Claim 1 is therefore patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

CLAIMS 2-8, 10 AND 11

Claims 2-8, 10 and 11 all depend from Claim 1 and include all of the limitations of Claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 2-8, 10 and 11 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 1. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-8, 10 and 11 recite additional limitations that independently render them patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

CLAIM 12

Claim 12 recites limitations similar to Claim 1, except in the context of a computer-readable medium. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 12 is patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 1.

CLAIM 13

Claim 13 recites limitations similar to Claim 1, except with elements recited in means-plus-function format. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 13 is patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 1.

CLAIMS 14-20

Claims 14 and 15 recite limitations similar to Claim 1, except in the context of apparatuses. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 14 and 15 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 1. Claims 16-20 all depend from Claim 15 and include all of the limitations of Claim 15. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 16-20 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claims 15 and 1.

CLAIMS 21-27, 29 AND 30

Claims 21-27, 29 and 30 all depend from Claim 12 and include all of the limitations of Claim 12. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 21-27, 29 and 30 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 12.

CLAIMS 31-37, 39 AND 40

Claims 31-37, 39 and 40 all depend from Claim 13 and include all of the limitations of Claim 13. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 31-37, 39 and 40 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 13.

CLAIMS 41-44, 46 AND 47

Claims 41-44, 46 and 47 all depend from Claim 15 and include all of the limitations of Claim 15. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 41-44, 46 and 47 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 15.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-8, 10-27, 29-37, 39-44, 46 and 47 are patentable over *Wang* and *Fijolek*.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and the issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1302. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that such contact would be helpful in furthering the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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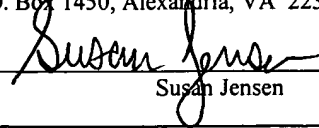
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On August 22, 2006

By



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